

Weekly Crop and Weather Report

MD-CW1203

JUNE 23, 2003

HAY HARVEST BEHIND SCHEDULE

Cooler temperatures and more rainfall resulted in only 2.0 **days suitable for field work** for the week ending June 22, 2003. The first cutting of **dry hay** is drastically behind normal by almost 60 percent. The quality of the first harvest is poor and much of it could be lost from all the rain. Some farmers are already finding it difficult to purchase hay. **Hay supplies** are mostly short and rated 4 percent surplus, 25 percent adequate, 42 percent short and 29 percent very short.

A small amount of planting progress was made for **soybeans, sorghum, sweet corn** and **tobacco**. Many **corn** fields continue to grow slowly due to lack of nitrogen and excess ground moisture. Harvest of **green peas** is behind normal by at least three weeks due to lack of sunlight.

More lodging is occurring in **wheat** and **barley** fields from the wind and rain. Some small grain fields are starting to show signs of disease problems, like Septoria leaf. Barley harvest is finally beginning and will increase this week as long as the weather cooperates.

MARYLAND'S CROP PROGRESS FOR WEEK ENDING JUNE 22, 2003 (PERCENT)

ITEM	THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	LAST YEAR	AVERAGE 1998-2002
Small Grain Development:				
Winter Wheat Turned	52	38	97	92
Barley Turned	92	81	100	100
Planting Progress:				
Cucumbers	50	43	73	80
Lima Beans (ALL)	43	41	66	65
Snap Beans	71	54	59	77
Sorghum	41	39	96	87
Soybeans	41	36	78	73
Sweet Corn	79	75	94	95
Tobacco Transplanted	69	63	98	91
Tomatoes	90	78	98	99
Harvesting Progress:				
Strawberries	79	62	95	92
Green Peas	33	30	90	74
Alfalfa Hay 1 st Cutting	42	40	98	98
Other Hay 1 st Cutting	35	32	96	94

CROP CONDITION FOR WEEK ENDING JUNE 22, 2003 (PERCENT)

Condition	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Barley	6	12	39	40	3
Winter Wheat	7	13	41	35	4
Corn	10	22	37	31	-
Soybeans	8	25	53	14	-
Pasture	2	6	25	46	21

SOIL MOISTURE CONDITIONS FOR WEEK ENDING JUNE 22, 2003 (PERCENT)

Condition	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Topsoil Moisture	-	-	20	80
Topsoil (2002)	5	33	62	-
Subsoil Moisture	-	-	36	64
Subsoil (2002)	23	57	20	-

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